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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2504

May 5, 2010

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The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-128, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David R. Obey
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-218, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Inouye and Chairman Obey,

The Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act authorized the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study to examine the original project purposes of the Missouri River basin as authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944. In Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010, Congress appropriated over \$7.6 million to carry out this study.

Since its inception, we have opposed the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study because it is wasteful and because its advocates have not shown that there have been any changes in the Missouri River basin since the completion of the last Missouri River study in 2004. The 2004 review of Missouri River policies, which took 15 years to conduct and which cost taxpayers \$35 million, resulted in the Missouri River Master Water Control Manual (Master Manual). The Corps has indicated, as recently as April 2010, that the Master Manual continues to provide the necessary management guidance to meet the contemporary needs of the Missouri River basin.

While the authorization for the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study is law, funding for the study is subject to annual Congressional appropriations. In light of the federal government's budgetary challenges and the wasteful, duplicative nature of the study, we feel strongly that Congress should direct no more funds to this endeavor.

With kind regards, we are

Sincerely,


IKE SKELTON
Member of Congress


KIT BOND
United States Senator


CLAIRE McCASKILL
United States Senator